

**Claims:**

1. A wound dressing comprising a web of gel-forming fibers or fibers soluble in wound exudates, attached to a reinforcing layer wherein the density of the web is  
5 in the range of 5-60 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
2. A wound dressing according to claim 1 wherein the fibers are selected from the group consisting of polysaccharide or polyacrylate fibers, preferably alginate, chitosan, alginate containing CMC, or CMC fibers or derivatives or mixtures  
10 thereof.
3. A wound dressing according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by needling.
- 15 4. A wound dressing according to any of claims 1-3 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by thermal bonding.
5. A wound dressing according to any of claims 1-4 wherein the web is attached to the reinforcing layer by adhesive means.  
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6. A wound dressing according to any of claims 1-5 wherein the reinforcing layer is in the form of a net, a foam, a film, a non-woven or woven material.
7. A wound dressing according to any of claims 1-6 wherein the dressing  
25 comprises one or more active ingredients.
8. A wound dressing according to claim 7 wherein the active ingredient comprises an antibacterial agent.
- 30 9. A wound dressing according to claim 7 wherein the active ingredient comprises a pain-relieving agent.

10. A wound dressing according to any of claim 1-9 wherein the dressing comprises Ag-Ca-alginate and/or Ag-Na-CMC.